



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

102
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,356	09/11/2003	Duran Yetkinler	SKEL-012	6769
24353	7590	03/24/2005	EXAMINER	
BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP 1900 UNIVERSITY AVENUE SUITE 200 EAST PALO ALTO, CA 94303				RAMANA, ANURADHA
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
				3732

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

8W

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/661,356	YETKINLER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Anu Ramana	3732	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on March 16, 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-11, 18-23 and 26 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11, 18-23 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 9/11/2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/18/04; 1/3/05</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11, 18-19, 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Constantz et al. (US 6,149,655).

Constantz et al. disclose a method of introducing calcium phosphate cement for orthopedic applications utilizing a cement delivery means such as a needle wherein the needle is vibrated to enhance perfusion of cement (col. 25, lines 38-59, col. 27, lines 11-57, col. 28, lines 49-67 and col. 29, lines 1-67).

Regarding claim 5, Constantz et al. are utilizing vibration to enhance cement delivery. Thus, when vibration is stopped, perfusion of cement should also substantially stop.

Claims 18-21, 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Saito (US 6,340,299).

Saito discloses a system for delivering a cement including a delivery device or cannula 35 and a vibration generating mechanism or “vibratory element” 11 for vibrating the cement delivery device (Fig. 2, col. 5, lines 11-67, col. 6, lines 37-45 and col. 7, lines 18-39).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102/103

Claims 10, 18-19, 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Constantz et al. (US 6,149,655) or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Constantz et al. (US 6,149,655).

Although Constantz et al. do not make an explicit reference to a vibratory element attached to the cement delivery means or needle such an element would be inherently necessary in order to vibrate the cement delivery needle.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to provide a vibratory element attached to the needle in order to vibrate the needle. To support this position, the Examiner directs Applicants' attention to Sproul (US 6,832,988) who discloses an ultrasonic pulse generator or "vibratory element" 92 attached to an ultrasonic probe 91 in order to vibrate the probe (Fig. 7 and col. 7, lines 15-47).

The method steps of claim 10 are rendered obvious by the above discussion.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Constantz et al. (US 6,149,655), as applied to claim 1, in view of Sproul (US 6,832,988).

Constantz et al. disclose all elements of the claimed invention except for the step of aspirating marrow from cancellous bone.

Sproul teaches maceration and liquefaction of diseased tissue followed by aspiration during vertebroplasty (col. 1, lines 29-38 and col. 7, lines 15-47).

Accordingly it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilized aspiration, as taught by Sproul, for removing diseased tissue during vertebroplasty according to the method of the combination of Constantz et al. and Sproul.

Double Patenting

A rejection based on double patenting of the "same invention" type finds its support in the language of 35 U.S.C. 101 which states that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process ... may obtain a patent therefor ..." (Emphasis added). Thus, the term "same invention," in this context, means an invention drawn to identical subject matter. See *Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co.*, 151 U.S. 186 (1894); *In re Ockert*, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957); and *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970).

A statutory type (35 U.S.C. 101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope. The filing of a terminal disclaimer cannot overcome a double patenting rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 19 and 26 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 23 and 28 of copending Application No. 10/797,907. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claims 23 and 28 disclose all elements of the claimed invention. The only difference being the intended use recitation "cement composition" versus "flowable composition" which has been given no patentable weight.

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-4 and 8 provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 7-10 and 12 of copending Application No. 10/900,019 in view of Constantz et al. (US 6,149,655).

Claims 7-10 and 12 disclose all elements of the claimed invention except for the use of a calcium phosphate cement.

Constantz et al. teach the use of calcium phosphate cements in orthopedic applications due to their similarity to the mineral phase of natural bone (col. 1, lines 42-52).

Accordingly it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilized calcium phosphate cements in the method of "019" wherein so doing a defect is filled with material resembling natural bone.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Claim 19 is provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 20 of copending Application No. 10/900,019 ("019" herein).

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the difference between the claim of the present application and the claim of the copending application is that the claim of the copending application includes many more elements and is thus more specific. Thus the invention of the claim of "019" is in effect a "species" of the "generic" invention of the claim of the present application. It has been held that the generic invention is "anticipated" by the "species." See *In re Goodman*, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Since the claims of the present application are anticipated by the claims of "019", they are not patentably distinct from the claims of the copending application.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anu Ramana whose telephone number is (571) 272-4718. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached at (571) 272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AR *Anuadha Ramana*
March 19, 2005



KEVIN SHAVER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700